

Provisional Vital Statistics for February 2004

Live births increases in February as 7,573 Missourians were born compared with 5,890 one year earlier. Most of the increase was due to irregular reporting. Cumulative births for the 12 months ending with February show a slight decrease.

Deaths increased in February as 7,018 Missourians died compared with 5,544 in February 2003. Deaths also increased for January and February, but decreased for the 12 months ending with December.

The **Natural increase** for February was 555 (7,573 births minus 7,018 deaths). For the 12 months ending with February, the natural increase

rose from 18,880 to 21,919.

Marriages decreased for all three time periods shown below.

Dissolutions of marriage increased in February, but decreased for the 2- and 12 month periods ending with February. For the 12 months ending with February, the marriage to divorce ratio decreased from 1.86 to 1.77.

Infant deaths increased in February, but decreased for the cumulative 2- and 12 month periods ending with February. For the 12 months ending with February, the infant death rate decreased from 8.8 to 7.8 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR February 2004

<u>Item</u>	<u>February</u>				<u>Jan-Feb <u>cumulative</u></u>				<u>12 months ending with February</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Live Births	5,890	7,573	13.5	15.5	11,664	12,523	12.9	13.3	76,566	76,389	13.1	13.5	13.4
Deaths	5,544	7,018	12.7	14.4	10,423	11,487	11.5	12.2	57,686	54,470	9.4	10.2	9.5
Natural increase	346	555	0.8	1.1	1,241	1,036	1.4	1.1	18,880	21,919	3.7	3.3	3.8
Marriages	2,700	1,908	6.2	3.9	4,635	4,279	5.1	4.5	42,150	39,630	7.4	7.4	6.9
Dissolutions	1,800	1,901	4.1	3.9	3,511	3,392	3.9	3.6	22,665	22,327	4.1	4.0	3.9
Infant deaths	53	63	9.0	8.3	108	98	9.3	7.8	676	597	7.8	8.8	7.8
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,704	5,738	...	...	5,704	5,738	...	...	5,643	5,679	5,710

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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